



*“Drawing From the Well”*

*“Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.” Isaiah 12:3*

*Womens Ministry of Calvary Chapel Bible Fellowship*

**JAMES 4:13-5:6**

**Lesson 11**

*“All my requests are lost in one,  
‘Father, Thy will be done!’”  
Charles Wesley*

**DAY ONE: Review and Overview**

1. Prayerfully read **James 4:1-12**. What is the cause of *wars and fights* according to this passage?
  - a. What is the reason for “*not having*” according to **James 4:2b-3**?
  - b. What is “*friendship with the world*” according to **James 4:4**?
  - c. Who does God give grace to according to **James 4:6**?
  - d. Humility is an important emphasis in **James 4**. How would speaking evil of others be in contradiction to a humble spirit?
  - e. “*Who are you that judges another?*” **James 4:12b**. How will you apply what you learned about criticizing others from last week’s lesson?
  
2. Prayerfully read **James 4:13-5:6**. Re-read this portion of Scripture, this time pulling out key words or phrases and list them below then title each segment:

<b>James 4:13-17</b>	<b>James 5:1-6</b>
<b>Segment Title</b>	<b>Segment Title</b>

3. In the first verses of **chapter 4**, James reveals man’s preference for the world and its pleasures and his lack of consideration of God. Then in **verses 11 and 12** he shows us that judging our brother is a display of man’s disregard of God. The first paragraph division of this week’s study reveals how man, through the making of his own plans, ignores the providence of God. Begin your study this week with prayer. Acknowledge the sovereignty of the Lord. Express your desire to not only consider Him in all that you do, but to put Him first, yielding all of your plans to Him.

*“This is my desire, to honor You  
 Lord, with all my heart I worship You  
 All I have within me, I give You praise,  
 All that I adore is in You  
 Lord, I give You my heart, I give You my soul,  
 I live for You alone,  
 Every breath that I take, every moment I’m awake,  
 Lord, have Your way with me”*

**DAY TWO: James 4:13-14**

1. James continues his teaching on humility by addressing those who were making their own plans without considering God. What were they saying according to **James 4:13**?
  - a. What is wrong with this kind of attitude according to the following scriptures?
    - 1) **Lamentations 3:37**
    - 2) **Proverbs 27:1**
    - 3) **James 4:14a**
  - b. James is not against planning, but he is against man’s claim to knowledge of the future and a disregard of God’s will. Why is this so foolish?
2. Contrast the outlook of the man described in **Luke 12:16** with the attitude Jesus wants us to have as seen in **Luke 12:22-31**.

The Man of Luke 12:16-21	Attitude Jesus Desires from Luke 12:22-31

- a. We all have found our thinking paralleling that of the man in **Luke 12:16**. Share an example of a time you have built before consulting the Master Planner.

3. How is our life described according to the following verses?
  - a. **Job 7:7a**
  
  - b. **Psalm 39:5**
  
  - c. **Psalm 78:39**
  
  - d. **Psalm 103:15-16**
  
  - e. **Psalm 144:3-4**
  
4. See the contrast of our temporal life on this earth and the eternal in the following verses:
  - a. **1 Peter 1:24-25**
  
  
  - b. **1 John 2:17**
  
5. How does having this perspective help in understanding what Paul wrote in **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**?
  
6. Realizing your frailty and knowing the awesome power of God, how does it make you feel to know that He is mindful of you and that you are of His concern?
  
7. Look up the following verses to see the blessing of knowing that God is mindful of you.
  - a. **Psalm 8:4a**
  
  - b. **Psalm 139:13-18**
  
  
  - c. **Jeremiah 29:11-13**
  
  
  - d. How does understanding the character and power of God and your importance to Him cause you to depend on Him and trust Him for your tomorrows rather than take them into your own hands?

*“I can hardly recollect a single plan of mine,  
of which I have not since seen reason to be satisfied that,  
had it taken place in season and circumstance just as I proposed,  
it would, humanly speaking, have proved my ruin;  
or at least it would have deprived me of the greater good the Lord had designed for me.”*  
John Newton

**DAY THREE:**

**James 4:15-17**

1. Prayerfully read **James 4:15-16**. In this portion of scripture we see *self-sufficiency*. Self-sufficiency is failure to acknowledge God. A person should consult God in his plans and life, but most do not. Most people go about living life like they want; they seldom consider God. But this is not the way life is to be lived for a Christian. A person is to acknowledge God and confess his dependency upon God. What two things are we dependant on God for according to **James 4:15**?
  - a.
  - b.
  
2. Look up the definition for the word *will* (#2309) and record your findings here.
  
3. Look up the following scriptures (some commands, some examples) and note the balance of consulting the Lord in all we do. Let this sink in to your heart as you look at these verses:
  - a. **Psalm 143:10**
  
  - b. **Proverbs 3:5-6**
  
  - c. *Jesus:* **Matthew 26:42**
  
  - d. *Mary:* **Luke 1:38**
  
  - e. *The Apostle Paul:* **1 Corinthians 4:19**

**1 Corinthians 16:7**

4. Saying “*if the Lord wills*” is not hoping God’s will is in line with ours, but desiring that our plans are in accordance with His will. Why is it so important to desire to be in God’s will?
  
5. Most boasting is not done by word of mouth. It is done by the way we live. We boast by flaunting our abilities and successes through our possessions and activities. We have an urge, a tendency, to boast and to be seen and recognized as better or more successful than others. Note what **James 4:16** says, “*but now you boast in your arrogance*”; (that we are more successful than others), but the Bible says boastings, such as pride and arrogance, are **evil**. Rather than boast about our own accomplishments what do the following verses say we are to boast in?
  - a. **Psalm 34:2-3**
  
  - b. **Psalm 44:8**

c. **Jeremiah 9:23-24**

d. **Galatians 6:14**

6. Prayerfully read **James 4:17**. Write this verse in your own words.

a. What do you think James is trying to say?

b. Look up and record what **Luke 12:47** says.

*“A man's heart plans his way,  
But the LORD directs his steps.”  
Proverbs 16:9*

**DAY FOUR: James 5:1-6**

1. Read **James 5:1-6**. The people in **James 4:13-16** were making plans for their future through financial profit without considering the Lord's will for their lives. James continues his thoughts in this section with the same words used in **verse 13**, “*Come now*”. James addresses the rich who have no place in their lives for God and who are oppressing others. He is not making a statement against riches, only the improper gain and use of them. Describe the attitudes and actions of the rich whom James is rebuking.
  
2. **James 5:2** states, “*Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten*”. **James 5:3** continues the thought describing the greed of these rich men. The thought here is that they were hoarding their riches, “*heaping their treasures*”. At the time of this writing, the rich were not known by the land and houses they owned, but rather by the gold and silver and garments they had accumulated. Instead of laying up treasure in heaven they piled up earthly treasure for the last days. The right use of wealth is not to spend it upon self-indulgence or stockpile it, but to “*do good*” with it. What miseries does **James 5:2-3** say will come upon these men?
  
3. By what method were these men becoming wealthy according to **James 5:4**?
  - a. What warning does Paul give in **1 Timothy 6:9**?



4. Read the account about a certain rich man in the Bible according to **Luke 16:19-31**. Record your thoughts below.
  
5. Look up **1 Timothy 6:6-11**. Really think about this passage as you answer the following questions.
  - a. What does Paul say is great gain?
  - b. What will we take with us when we leave this world?
  - c. What should we be content with?
  - d. What happens to those that desire to get rich?
  - e. What does Paul say about the love of money?
  - f. What is the man of God to do?
  
6. A frame of mind that causes people to store up riches for themselves and turn their back on the needy is that “I may need it someday for myself” or “I want to take it easy and relax, not having to worry about supporting myself.” What does **Matthew 6:25-34** say? Write out this passage and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart through this Scripture. Do you believe this?
  
7. Often we think that it is the “church’s” responsibility to provide for the people. The problem is, we think of the “church” as an organization – not an organism. The “church” is not a building, but the people that fill the building! What did the early church do when there was a need in the body according to **Acts 4:32-35**?
  - a. Notice what this was a result of from **Acts 4:31**. ~ Selah!
  - b. Pray that God gives you the ability to respond to those in need. As we minister to others’ needs, our own desires grow strangely dim!

*“I have found more JOY along the path of Thy instruction  
Than in any kind of wealth.”*

*Psalm 119:14 TLB*